

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A carbon material comprising a first carbon material serving as an inner core particle having an outer surface, and a coating of a second carbon material on said outer surface of the first carbon material, the second carbon material containing at least 1 wt. % to up to 15 wt. % of boron.

2. (original) A carbon material according to claim 1 wherein the first carbon material contains no boron.

3. (original) A carbon material according to claim 1 wherein the first carbon material is at least 3.35 Å to not greater than 3.38 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof and is at least 300 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of c-axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

4. (original) A carbon material according to claim 1 wherein the first carbon material is at least 3.35 Å to not greater than 3.36 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof and is

at least 1000 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of c-axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

5. (original) A carbon material according to claim 1 wherein the second carbon material is at least 3.37 Å to not greater than 3.90 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

6. (canceled)

7. (original) A carbon material according to claim 1 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 5 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % of boron.

8. (original) A carbon material according to claim 1 wherein the amount of the second carbon material is at least 1 wt. % to up to 20 wt. % based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

9. (original) A carbon material according to claim 1 wherein the amount of the second carbon material is at least 5 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.


10. (original) A carbon material according to claim 1 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.01 wt. % to up to 3 wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

11. (original) A carbon material according to claim 1 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.25 wt. % to up to 1 wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

12. (currently amended) A carbon material comprising a first carbon material serving as an inner core particle having an outer surface, and a coating of a second carbon material on said outer surface of the first carbon material, the second carbon material


containing nitrogen and at least 1 wt. % to up to 15 wt. % of boron
~~and nitrogen.~~

13. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12
wherein the first carbon material contains no boron and no
nitrogen.

 14. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12
wherein the first carbon material is at least 3.35 Å to not greater
than 3.38 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof and is
at least 300 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of
c-axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction
method.

15. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12
wherein the first carbon material is at least 3.35 Å to not greater
than 3.36 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof and is
at least 1000 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of
c-axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction
method.

16. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12 wherein the second carbon material is at least 3.37 Å to not greater than 3.90 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

 17. (canceled)

18. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 5 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % of boron.

19. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 1 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % of nitrogen.

20. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 3 wt. % to up to 5 wt. % of nitrogen.

21. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12 wherein the amount of the second carbon material is at least 1 wt. % to up to 20 wt. % based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

22. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12 wherein the amount of the second carbon material is at least 5 wt. % to up to 15 wt. % based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

23. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.01 wt. % to up to 3 wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

24. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.25 wt. % to up to 1.5 wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

25. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.01 wt. % to up to 2 wt. % of nitrogen based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

26. (original) A carbon material according to claim 12 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.15 wt. % to up to 0.75 wt. % of nitrogen based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

27. (currently amended) An electrode comprising a carbon material used as an active substance, the carbon material comprising a first carbon material serving as an inner core particle having an outer surface, and a coating of a second carbon material on said outer surface of the first carbon material, the second carbon material containing at least 1 wt. % to up to 15 wt. % of boron.

28. (original) An electrode according to claim 27 wherein the first carbon material contains no boron.

29. (original) An electrode according to claim 27 wherein the first carbon material is at least 3.35 Å to not greater than 3.38 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof and is at least 300 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of c-axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

30. (original) An electrode according to claim 27 wherein the first carbon material is at least 3.35 Å to not greater than 3.36 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof and is at least 1000 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of c-axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

31. (original) An electrode according to claim 27 wherein the second carbon material is at least 3.37 Å to not greater than 3.90 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

32. (canceled)

33. (original) An electrode according to claim 27 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 5 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % of boron.

34. (original) An electrode according to claim 27 wherein the amount of the second carbon material is at least 1 wt. % to up to 20 wt. % based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

35. (original) An electrode according to claim 27 wherein the amount of the second carbon material is at least 5 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

36. (original) An electrode according to claim 27 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.01 wt. % to up to 3 wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

37. (original) An electrode according to claim 27 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.25 wt. % to up to 1 wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

38. (currently amended) An electrode comprising a carbon material used as an active substance, the carbon material comprising a first carbon material serving as an inner core particle having an outer surface, and a coating of a second carbon material on said outer surface of the first carbon material, the second carbon material containing nitrogen and at least 1 wt. % to up to 15 wt. % of boron and nitrogen.

39. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the first carbon material contains no boron and no nitrogen.

40. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the first carbon material is at least 3.35 Å to not greater than 3.38 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof and is at least 300 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of c-

axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

41. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the first carbon material is at least 3.35 Å to not greater than 3.36 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof and is at least 1000 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of c-axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

42. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the second carbon material is at least 3.37 Å to not greater than 3.90 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

43. (canceled)

44. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 5 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % of boron.

45. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 1 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % of nitrogen.

46. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 3 wt. % to up to 5 wt. % of nitrogen.

47. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the amount of the second carbon material is at least 1 wt. % to up to 20 wt. % based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

48. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the amount of the second carbon material is at least 5 wt. % to up to 15 wt. % based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

49. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.01 wt. % to up to 3

wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

50. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.25 wt. % to up to 1.5 wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

51. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the second carbon material contains 0.01 wt. % to up to 2 wt. % of nitrogen based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

52. (original) An electrode according to claim 38 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.15 wt. % to up to 0.75 wt. % of nitrogen based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

53. (currently amended) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell comprising a negative electrode incorporating a carbon

material therein as an active substance, the carbon material comprising a first carbon material serving as an inner core particle having an outer surface, and a coating of a second carbon material on said outer surface of the first carbon material, the second carbon material containing at least 1 wt. % to up to 15 wt. % of boron.

54. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 53 wherein the first carbon material contains no boron.

55. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 53 wherein the first carbon material is at least 3.35 Å to not greater than 3.38 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof and is at least 300 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of c-axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

56. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 53 wherein the first carbon material is at least

3.35 Å to not greater than 3.36 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof and is at least 1000 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of c-axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

57. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 53 wherein the second carbon material is at least 3.37 Å to not greater than 3.90 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

58. (canceled)

59. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 53 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 5 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % of boron.

60. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 53 wherein the amount of the second carbon material is at least 1 wt. % to up to 20 wt. % based on the

combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

61. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 53 wherein the amount of the second carbon material is at least 5 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

62. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 53 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.01 wt. % to up to 3 wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

63. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 53 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.25 wt. % to up to 1 wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

64. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 53 which comprises a positive electrode consisting mainly of a lithium-containing metal oxide.

65. (currently amended) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell comprising a negative electrode incorporating a carbon material therein as an active substance, the carbon material comprising a first carbon material serving as an inner core particle having an outer surface, and a coating of a second carbon material on said outer surface of the first carbon material, the second carbon material containing nitrogen and at least 1 wt. % to up to 15 wt. % of boron and ~~nitrogen~~.

66. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the first carbon material contains no boron and no nitrogen.

67. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the first carbon material is at least 3.35 Å to not greater than 3.38 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002)

planes thereof and is at least 300 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of c-axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

68. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the first carbon material is at least 3.35 Å to not greater than 3.36 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof and is at least 1000 Å in the size L_c of crystallites in the direction of c-axis thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

69. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the second carbon material is at least 3.37 Å to not greater than 3.90 Å in the spacing d_{002} between (002) planes thereof as determined by the X-ray wide-angle diffraction method.

70. (canceled)

71. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 5 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % of boron.

72. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 1 wt. % to up to 10 wt. % of nitrogen.

73. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 3 wt. % to up to 5 wt. % of nitrogen.

74. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the amount of the second carbon material is at least 1 wt. % to up to 20 wt. % based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

75. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the amount of the second carbon

material is at least 5 wt. % to up to 15 wt. % based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

76. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.01 wt. % to up to 3 wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

77. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.25 wt. % to up to 1.5 wt. % of boron based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

78. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.01 wt. % to up to 2 wt. % of nitrogen based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

79. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 wherein the second carbon material contains at least 0.15 wt. % to up to 0.75 wt. % of nitrogen based on the combined amount of the first carbon material and the second carbon material.

80. (original) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary cell according to claim 65 which comprises a positive electrode consisting mainly of a lithium-containing metal oxide.
